orders have been issued to regulate the lolcal purchase of non-listed medicines.

(b) This formally is not required for listed medicines.

(c) to (e) As present there is no such proposal for listed medicines as these are on the approved formulary of CGHS.

Demand for Financial Autonomy and Greater Share to States

3562. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is growing demand for grant of financial autnomy, economic freedom and greater share for States of the Indian Union; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Centre-State financial relationship is governed by the Constitution of India. The States have a separate Consolidated Fund, Contigency Fund and a Public Account of their own. Subject to various provisions of the Constitution, States are financially autonomous and are accountable to their respective State Legislatures.

However, the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations relating to the legislative, administrative and financial matters, etc. are being considered by the Sub-Committee appointed by the Inter-State Council. The Sub-Committee has so far considered 190 out of 247 recommendations. The remaining recommendations are yet to be finalised by the Sub-Committee. After consideration by the Sub-Committee, these recommendations will be placed before the Inter-State Council. The views of the Inter-State Council, thereafter will be submitted to the Government for its consideration and decision.

Referring 10th Finance Commission recommendations to committee

3563. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 10th Finance Commission recommendations regarding the pooling of all Central taxes for sharing with States have been referred to a Committee;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee and its composition; and

(c) the time by when the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) No Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Finance for considering the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission regarding the pooling of all Central taxes for sharing with the States. In the Budget speech it was announced that a discussion paper would be circulated to Hon'ble Members on the 10th Finance Commission's recommendation to form a single divisible pool of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the States.

Status of a full fledged T.V. Centre for Silchar

3564. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Silchar is only a relay T.V. centre and not a full fledged centre;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that news in local language is not broadcast from the Silchar T.V. centre; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The existing Doordarshan Kendra at Silchar in Assam is a full fledged Kendra, comprising of a High Power (10KW) T.V.

transmitter and a Studio for production of programmes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to constraints of manpower, resources and other infrastructural facilities, at present news bulletins are telecast from State capitals only in the language of that State, Urdu being the only exception.

Successful candidates not appointed by Air India

3565. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of candidates every year are interviewed after clearing written tests by Air India for various posts, but the successful candidates are not appointed for years, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the interviews held for various posts during the last year and this year and the number of candidates given appointment so far, post-wise; and

(c) the reasons for delay in sending appointment letters to the remaining successful candidates and by when they are likely to be given appointment?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Extension of numbering facility system for customs clearance of Cargo

3566. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Export Organisations had urged Government to extend the numbering facility system for customs clearance of cargo laden trucks at the Petrapole Benapole border point in West Bengal etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such demands have some justification;

(d) whether Government propose to accept these demands to reduce traffic congestion at this point; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) About 800 to 1000 trucks per day carry export cargo from Petrapole in West Bengal to Benapole in Bangladesh border. At Benapole/Bangladesh, authorities are in a position to accept only about 250 trucks a day, resulting in the balance of trucks causing severe congestion and bottleneck on the Petrapole Benapole Approach Road. In order to provide for smooth flow of goods from Petrapole to Benapole the Customs Commissionerate West Bengal introduced a system of giving serial numbers to about 250 trucks which alone move to Bangladesh in a day. The numbers are given on a first come first served basis. The rest of the trucks which have not obtaineld the serial numbers from the Customs office at Petrapole are moved from the Highway and parked in the Parking lots adjoining Petrapole. The above system reduced the bottleneck in the Petrapole—Benapole Highway.

FIEO has suggested that this facility may be computerised and extended to two other approach roads through which trucks carrying export cargo to Bangladesh pass. These suggestions are under consideration.

New guidelines by Medical Council of India for internship of Medical Graduates

3567. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new guidelines have been issued the Medical Council of India to the medical graduates from the erstwhile Soviet Union for their internship;